

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Specification for preservative treatment

**Part 2: Reconstituted wood-based
products**



Standards Australia



STANDARDS
NEW ZEALAND
Pūrongo Aotearoa

AS/NZS 1604.2:2002

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee TM-006, Timber Preservation and Durability. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 26 October 2001 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 28 November 2001. It was published on 4 January 2002.

The following interests are represented on Committee TM-006:

Australian Building Codes Board
CSIRO Forestry and Forest Products
Consumers Federation of Australia
Housing Industry Association
Institution of Engineers, Australia
National Registration Authority for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals
New Zealand Forest Research Institute
New Zealand Timber Industry Federation
New Zealand Preservation Council
Plywood Association of Australia
Queensland Forestry Research Institute
State Forests of New South Wales
Timber Preservers Association of Australia
Timber Promotion Council
Timber Research and Development Advisory Council of Queensland

Additional interest participating in the preparation of this Standard:

Australian Wood-based Panels Association

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee TM/6, Timber Preservation and Durability.

The objective of this Standard is to specify requirements for preservative treatment of reconstituted wood-based product for protection against decay or insect attack.

This Standard does not specify the methods of preservative treatment that may be adopted to achieve the specified penetrations and retentions. Where the user is uncertain of the appropriate preservative treatment, additional information may be obtained from state, territory or federal forestry authorities or trades' associations.

This Standard is the second part in AS 1604, a series of Standards, which covers specification for preservative treatment of timber products, as follows:

AS 1604	Specification for preservative treatment
AS 1604.1	Part 1: Sawn and round timber
AS/NZS 1604.2	Part 2: Reconstituted wood-based products (this Standard)
AS/NZS 1604.3	Part 3: Plywood
AS/NZS 1604.4	Part 4: Laminated veneer lumber (LVL)
AS/NZS 1604.5	Part 5: Glued laminated timber products

Preservatives not covered in this edition, and which may have general application, should be brought to the attention of Standards Australia for consideration for inclusion in future editions.

Important Safety Notice

Improper use of the preservative chemicals and treated products may be hazardous. All individuals involved in the production or testing of treated products should be familiar with the relevant material safety data sheets.

Consumer information sheets dealing with the appropriate use and handling of treated products should be provided as point of sale literature.

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in notes to tables are deemed to be an integral part of this Standard.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
FOREWORD.....	4
SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL	
1.1 SCOPE.....	5
1.2 APPLICATION	5
1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS.....	5
1.4 DEFINITIONS.....	6
1.5 TIMBER PRESERVATIVES	7
1.6 PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS.....	7
1.7 SELECTION OF HAZARD CLASS NUMBER.....	7
1.8 PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT.....	9
SECTION 2 HAZARD CLASSES 1, 2 AND 3	
2.1 GENERAL.....	10
2.2 PRESERVATIVE PENETRATION REQUIREMENT.....	10
2.3 PRESERVATIVE RETENTION REQUIREMENT.....	10
SECTION 3 MARKING	
3.1 LEGIBLE MARKING	12
3.2 MARKING INFORMATION	12
3.3 NUMERICAL LAYOUT OF BRANDS	12
3.4 ADVISORY LABEL—ENVELOPE PENETRATION	12
3.5 COMPLIANCE TESTING	12
APPENDICES	
A GUIDE TO HAZARD CLASSIFICATIONS FOR VARIOUS END-USE APPLICATIONS	13
B METHOD OF SELECTION AND PREPARATION OF TEST SPECIMEN.....	14

FOREWORD

The purpose of preservation is to extend the life of the reconstituted wood-based product by protecting it from decay or insect attack. This increases the range for the end application of the reconstituted wood-based product and renders it a more useful and reliable material for construction, building and engineering purposes.

The service life of the reconstituted wood-based product depends on a variety of factors. These include the natural durability of the timber species, the degree of preservative treatment, the range of hazards and type of environment anticipated during the service life of the product. In addition, the severity of exposure can be reduced by alternative design. Regular inspection and maintenance procedures will assist in minimizing the effects of exposure.

In all conditions of use, the non-durable timber component of the reconstituted wood-based product can be made durable by appropriate preservative treatment. Service life may depend upon the reconstituted wood-based product having been ripped, crosscut, shaped, bored, machined or having had any such operations or processes carried out prior to preservative treatment. Where subsequent machining is unavoidable and the treatment pattern is an envelope, supplementary protection should be applied to the cut surface; however, this protection cannot be expected to be as effective as the original recommended treatment.

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Part 2: Reconstituted wood-based products
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SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This standard sets out a specification for preservative treatment of reconstituted wood-based products including particleboard and oriented strand board or combinations of these materials. It specifies the preservative penetration pattern and the preservative retention requirements suitable for each hazard class (see Table 1).

Where the reconstituted wood-based products are engineered with other components such as solid wood or LVL in I-beams, or face-veneers on boards, the preservative treatment of these individual components shall be in accordance with the relevant Parts of the AS 1604 series.

This Standard does not cover grade or seasoning condition.

1.2 APPLICATION

This Standard, in conjunction with AS 1604.1 and AS/NZS 1605, is intended for application throughout Australia and New Zealand.

NOTES:

- 1 This Standard does not apply to finger-jointed material. For finger-jointed material, the specifications in AS 1604.1 apply.
- 2 In Queensland the Timber Utilisation and Marketing Act 1987 and in New South Wales the Timber Marketing Act 1977 require approval of a preservative treatment and registration of a brand before timber, offered for sale in either of these states, can be described as preservative-treated. Detailed information about requirements of such legislation may be obtained from the state, territory or federal forestry authorities or trades' associations.
- 3 Where products are to be treated to comply with the requirements of this Standard, timber treaters should select suitable timber material to ensure that the finished product can be penetrated to the depth required for each hazard class.
- 4 Where a timber species' treatment properties are not known, trial samples placed into a normal charge/process should give indications of the timber's treatability. These indications should serve as a guide for the treater.

In addition, the following references set down the treatment properties of some well-known commercial timbers of the world:

- (a) BS EN 350-2 (see Clause 1.3).
- (b) Keating W.G., Bolza., *Characteristics and uses of timber*, Vol.1, S.E. Asia, Northern Australia and the Pacific, INKATA PRESS Melbourne 1982.

1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

AS	
1604	Specification for preservative treatment
1604.1	Sawn and round timber